

## Message Text

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TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 058391

TOSEC 555

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: REACTION TO YOUR HOUSTON SPEECH

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM ARA - BOWDLER AND  
INFO CARACAS FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS

SUMMARY: FOLLOWING OUR LAST REACTION ROUND-UP, LATIN  
AMERICAN COVERAGE OF YOUR SPEECH MOVED FROM THE FRONT  
PAGES TO THE EDITORIAL SECTION. AS WE HOPED, THE LATINS  
ARE NOW LOOKING AT THE ENTIRE SPEECH AND ARE EXAMINING ITS  
SPECIFIC PROPOSALS. AS A RESULT, THEY MAY BE COMING  
AROUND TO RECOGNIZING THAT THE TONE WAS DELIBERATELY  
POSITIVE AND CONCILIATORY. SOME ARE CONCLUDING THE SPEECH  
MAY MARK A NEW BEGINNING IN OUR RELATIONS. ON THE OTHER  
HAND, MOST LATINS REMAIN DEFENSIVE ON CONFRONTATION.  
END OF SUMMARY.

OFFICIAL REACTION: BRAZIL - CORREIO BRAZILIENSE CITED  
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FONOFF SPOKESMAN SPEAKING INFORMALLY AS SAYING SPEECH HAD

POSITIVE REPERCUSSION IN GOB AND REVEALED DISPOSITION TO MAINTAIN EFFECTIVE DIALOGUE "ON HIGH REALISTIC LEVEL". BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR HERE HAS DESCRIBED SPEECH AS IMPORTANT STATEMENT THAT IS CLEAR AND LUCID, SETTING FORTH "RULES OF GAME". WELL-PLACE FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIAL

SIMILARLY COMMENTED THAT SPEECH WELL RECEIVED AND PRAISED "CARDS ON TABLE" APPROACH.

VENEZUELA - THE INDEPENDENT CARACAS DAILY EL NACIONAL REPORTED ON THE VIEWS OF VENEZUELA'S OAS AMBASSADOR INTERVIEWED WHILE HE WAS IN CARACAS. HE REPORTEDLY ASSESSED AS POSITIVE THAT PART OF YOUR SPEECH DEALING WITH TRADE, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRANSNATIONAL ENTERPRISES. HE CHARACTERIZED AS NEGATIVE REFERENCES TO CONFRONTATION. HE MAINTAINED THAT SUSPENSION OF THE DIALOGUE WAS NOT THE LATINS FAULT BUT RESULTED FROM EXPECTATIONS THAT LITTLE WOULD RESULT FROM THE BUENOS AIRES MEETING.

ECUADOR - IN AN INTERVIEW IN ALGIERS, PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ CREDITED THE USG WITH MAKING EFFORTS TO REDRESS THOSE PORTIONS OF THE TRADE ACT AFFECTING ECUADOR AND VENEZUELA. THIS RECEIVED PROMINENT PLAY IN EL UNIVERSO, THE COUNTRY'S LARGEST DAILY, AND IN GUAYAQUIL'S INDEPENDENT EL TELEGRAFO. AMBASSADOR BREWSTER BELIEVES RODRIGUEZ' REMARK RESULTED FROM OUR DEMARCHES IN WASHINGTON AND QUITO.

MEXICO - AMBASSADOR JOVA SAW RABASA ON MARCH 7. RABASA SAID HE HAD DISCUSSED YOUR SPEECH WITH PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA PRESENTING IT AS EVIDENCE THAT MEXICO'S VIEWS ON CUBA, TRADE ACT AND PANAMA HAD BEEN TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. ECHEVERRIA WAS GRATIFIED. RABASA OBSERVED THAT IF THE U.S. DOES NOT DELIVER ON THESE THREE THINGS THE SPEECH WOULD END UP WITH A HOLLOW RING. PERSONALLY, RABASA WAS HIGHLY PLEASED WITH YOUR REMARKS. BUT AS FOREIGN MINISTER HE RESERVED FINAL JUDGMENT UNTIL THE RESULTS ARE IN.

MEDIA REACTION: ECUADOR - CONSERVATIVE EL TIEMPO DESCRIBED  
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ED YOUR REMARKS AS "REALISTIC." IT NOTED THAT WHILE REFERENCE TO CONFRONTATION HAD CAUSED ILL WILL, FOR A PROPER INTERPRETATION THE SPEECH SHOULD BE LOOKED AT AS A WHOLE. EL TIEMPO SUGGESTED THAT THE LATINS COLLABORATE WITH THE U.S. IN SEEKING A FORMULA LOOKING TO BETTER COOPERATION.

GUATEMALA - INDEPENDENT EL IMPARCIAL ASSERTED THAT

"MR. KISSINGER HAS OFFERED TO MAKE SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES IN THE RELATIONS BETWEEN LATIN AMERICA AND THE U.S. WITHOUT LOSING SIGHT OF THE FACT THAT HE WHO DEMANDS HIS RIGHTS MUST AT THE SAME TIME ACCEPT HIS OBLIGATIONS." EDITORIAL IN LIMITED CIRCULATION EL GRAFICO MAINTAINED THAT IN CONTRAST TO YOUR VIEWS, FORMATION OF BLOCS ARE THE CONDITIONS WHICH MAKE A NEW DIALOGUE POSSIBLE; BEFORE THE LATINS GOT TOGETHER, A DISUNITED LATIN AMERICA WAS AT A DISADVANTAGE IN DEALING WITH THE U.S.

TRINIDAD - IN ITS LEAD EDITORIAL, THE GUARDIAN, AN INDEPENDENT DAILY, OBSERVED THAT THE U.S. IS SEEKING RESUMPTION OF THE DIALOGUE BY REVISING THE TRADE ACT AND THROUGH A DIPLOMATIC OFFENSIVE BY ROGERS. WITH RESPECT TO THE U.S.' REAFFIRMATION OF A COMMITMENT TO A NEW RELATIONSHIP BASED ON THE PRINCIPLE OF NON-INTERVENTION, THE GUARDIAN NOTED THAT IT WOULD NOT BE SURPRISING, GIVEN DISCLOSURES ON CHILE, WHETHER THIS WAS NOT HEDGED BY YOU WITH A MENTAL RESERVATION TO TAKE UNILATERAL ACTION WHEN DEEMED FIT BY THE U.S.

VENEZUELA - THE DEAN OF THE COUNTRY'S FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMENTATORS WROTE IN CONSERVATIVE, INDEPENDENT EL UNIVERSAL THAT THE HOUSTON SPEECH WAS A U.S. EFFORT TO RECOVER THE INITIATIVE LOST AT BUENOS AIRES. HE APPROVED OF REFERENCES TO CUBA, PANAMA AND THE EMPHASIS ON FOOD PRODUCTION. HE FELT THERE WAS ENOUGH RHETORIC AND HOPED WE COULD RAPIDLY ACT ON THE PROPOSALS MADE. HE DISCUSSED U.S. MISUNDERSTANDING OF LATIN AMERICA, MAINTAINING THE LATINS HAVE REASONS WHY THEY FEEL LATIN AMERICA HAS TO DEFINE ITS UNITY AND INDEPENDENCE BY MEANS OF OPPOSITION TO THE U.S. HE ALSO TERMED AS AN OLD "SIREN SONG" THE U.S.' PROPOSAL FOR A NEW RELATIONSHIP BASED ON NON-INTER-CONFIDENTIAL

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VENTION AND SOVEREIGN EQUALITY. FINALLY, HE SAW THE SPEECH AS A POSITIVE INDICATION THAT AN EFFECTIVE NEW DIALOGUE MAY MARK THE END OF THE POLICY OF "NON-POLICY."

ARGENTINA - THE INTELLECTUAL, LEFTIST DAILY, OPINION, SAID YOUR PROPOSALS SHOULD BE CAREFULLY EXAMINED. WITH RESPECT TO THE AGRICULTURAL CONSULTATION GROUP, THE EDITORIALIST SAW THE CONCEPT OPPOSED TO LATIN AMERICA'S OWN EFFORTS AT ECONOMIC INTEGRATION.

CHILE - CONSERVATIVE EL MERCURIO SAW YOUR COMING TRIP TO SOUTH AMERICA AS OPENING THE WAY TO RENEWAL OF THE DIALOGUE ON THE BASIS OF FRIENDLY COLLABORATION AND GOOD UNDERSTANDING. IT THOUGHT YOU SHOULD CORRECT THE IMPRESSION THAT LATIN AMERICA REMAINS LOW IN YOUR AGENDA.

CUBA - RADIO HAVANA STATED A NEW DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE U.S. AND LATIN AMERICA IS NEEDED. BUT ADDED THAT THIS DOES NOT DEPEND ON THE "IMPERIALISTS -- IT IS AN EXIGENCY OF THE TIMES WE LIVE." RADIO HAVANA DID NOT TOUCH ON THE CONCILIATORY TONE OF THE SPEECH. A REUTERS DISPATCH FROM HAVANA SAID THAT AS EXPECTED THE LOCAL PRESS DID NOT PUBLISH A SINGLE WORD OF THE SPEECH NOR HAVE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS COMMENTED.

BRAZIL - BUSINESS-ORIENTED GAZETA MERCANTIL REGRETTED THAT YOUR REFERENCE TO INTERDEPENDENCE HAD BAD REPERCUS-

SIONS. AS FOR THE PROPOSALS, GAZETA THOUGHT THEY WOULD HAVE LITTLE EFFECT ON ECONOMIC PROBLEMS POSED TO LATIN AMERICA BY THE U.S. ECONOMY. BRAZILIA'S CONSERVATIVE CORREIO BRAZILIENSE SAID THE TRADE ACT WAS A DIVERTING ELEMENT IN YOUR EFFORTS TOWARD A BETTER UNDERSTANDING. IN A DISPATCH FROM THEIR MAN IN RIO, THE BALTIMORE SUN SAID "DESPITE KISSINGER'S GENERALLY CONCILIATORY SPEECH WHICH CONTAINED EXTENDED REFERENCES TO CUBA, OBSERVERS HERE AND ELSEWHERE IN LATIN AMERICA ANTICIPATE NO IMMEDIATE WARMING BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND HAVANA. THE PRINCIPLE OBSTACLE TO CARIBBEAN DETENTE, SOME DIPLOMATS BELIEVE IS PRESIDENT FORD."

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EL SALVADOR - REPORTED PRESS REACTION IN EL SALVADOR HAS BLOWN HOT AND COLD. LARGEST CIRCULATION PAPER, PRENSA GRAFICA, FIRST HEADLINED SPEECH "KISSINGER'S DESIRE TO SEEK DIALOGUE," BUT LATER CHARGED YOU WITH MAKING DIALOGUE HARDER. FINALLY, IN THIRD EDITORIAL, IT CALLED THE SPEECH "A TRUE ATTEMPT TO ACHIEVE THE RESUMPTION OF U.S.-LATIN AMERICAN DIALOGUE." SECOND LARGEST DAILY, DIARIO DE HOY, HEADLINED SPEECH AS "REPRIMAND" FOR "STERILE AND ARTIFICIAL CONFRONTATIONS," WHILE DIARIO LATINO CALLED SPEECH "SENSATIONAL" AND CLEAR STATEMENT OF U.S. POSITIONS THAT WOULD HELP LATIN AMERICANS PREPARE THEMSELVES FOR DIALOGUE.

URUGUAY -CONSERVATIVE, PRO-MILITARY LA MANANA CHARGED THAT U.S. COMMERCIAL INTERESTS ARE BEHIND U.S. SOFTER LINE ON CUBA. IT ALLEGED THAT U.S. HAS ALREADY MADE DECISION TO RENEW RELATIONS. IT OBSERVED THAT FOR ITS PART URUGUAY SHOULD NOT BE OPPORTUNIST, I.E. RENEW RELATIONS WITH CUBA. INGERSOLL

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